

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER**

Secretary of State Frankfort Kentucky

2020-701 August 26, 2020

# STATE OF EMERGENCY RELATING TO KENTUCKY ELECTIONS

### **Background**

The novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a respiratory disease causing illness that can range from very mild to severe, including illness resulting in death, and many cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in the Commonwealth.

To prevent the spread of disease, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Kentucky Department for Public Health have recommended that everyone practice social distancing, meaning staying home as much as possible and otherwise maintaining six feet of distance from other individuals, to minimize the spread of the disease. Where people congregate unnecessarily, or fail to follow adequate social distancing practices, they are spreading the disease, creating scenes of an emergency.

The Kentucky Constitution and Kentucky Revised Statutes, including KRS Chapter 39A, empower me to exercise all powers necessary to promote and secure the safety and protection of the civilian population, and to command individuals to disperse from the scene of an emergency.

On August 14, 2020, I issued Executive Order 2020-688, which declared a different manner for holding the 2020 general election on November 3, 2020, pursuant to KRS 39A.100(1)(1), upon the recommendation of Secretary of State Michael Adams. Consistent with Executive Order 2020-688, the Kentucky Board of Elections has now promulgated an emergency administrative regulation providing for the manner of conducting the November 3, 2020 election.



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I, Andy Beshear, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution of Kentucky and KRS Chapter 39A, do hereby approve the Emergency Administrative Regulation, 31 KAR 4:192E, Procedures for November 3, 2020 Elections, promulgated by the Kentucky Board of Elections on August 20, 2020.

This Order is effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

ANDY SENHEAR Governor Commonwealth of Kentucky

MICHAEL G. ADAMS Secretary of State

